

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House agreed to the Senate amendment with an amendment to H.R. 83, Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6583–S6698

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2998–3008, and S. Res. 599. **Pages S6626–27**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Fighting Fraud: Lessons Learned from the Senate Aging Committee’s Consumer Hotline”. (S. Rept. No. 113–305)

Special Report entitled “Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefit: Increasing Use and Access of Affordable Prescription Drugs”. (S. Rept. No. 113–306)

S. 1784, to improve timber management on Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road grant land, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–307)

S. 1463, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species. (S. Rept. No. 113–308)

H.R. 4573, to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States.

S. Res. 595, recognizing Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai for their efforts to end the financial exploitation of children and to ensure the right of all children to an education, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 597, commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS day.

S. 2922, to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations, with an amendment.

S. Con. Res. 38, expressing the sense of Congress that Warren Weinstein should be returned home to his family, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6626**

Measures Passed:

Ukraine Freedom Support Act: Senate passed S. 2828, to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, after withdrawing the committee amendments, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6602–07**

Durbin (for Menendez/Corker) Amendment No. 4092, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6607**

Transfer of Yellow Creek Port Properties: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3044, to approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6607**

Safe and Secure Drinking Water Protection Act: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of S. 2785, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to publish a health advisory and submit reports with respect to microcystins in drinking water, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6607**

Community Financial Institutions: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3329, to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual

savings, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S6607–08

Durbin (for King) Amendment No. 4093, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S6608

Credit Union Share Insurance Fund Parity Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3468, to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to extend insurance coverage to amounts held in a member account on behalf of another person, and the bill was then passed.

Page S6608

Central Oregon Jobs and Water Security Act: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2640, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S6621–22

Merkley Amendment No. 4094, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S6622

Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act: Senate passed S. 1535, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S6657–60

Schumer/Cornyn Amendment No. 4096, in the nature of substitute.

Page S6658

Cybersecurity Act: Senate passed S. 1353, to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S6665–69

King (for Rockefeller/Thune) Amendment No. 4097, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S6669

Continuing Resolution: Senate passed H.J. Res. 130, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015.

Page S6681

Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3096, to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the “Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center”, and the bill was then passed.

Page S6696

Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further

consideration of H.R. 4771, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids, and the bill was then passed.

Page S6696

EPS Service Parts Act: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5057, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and the bill was then passed.

Page S6696

Mortgages, Mortgage Foreclosure, and Eviction: Senate passed S. 3008, to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction.

Page S6697

United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 2338, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

Page S6697

Melville Hall of United States Merchant Marine Academy: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 2983, to allow for a contract for operation of Melville Hall of United States Merchant Marine Academy after gift by United States Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association and Foundation, Inc., for renovation of such hall, and the bill was then passed.

Pages S6697–98

100-Year Anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania: Senate agreed to S. Res. 599, recognizing the 100-year anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Page S6698

House Messages:

Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6585–S6602, S6608–21

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Page S6585

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3984 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date.

Page S6585

Reid Amendment No. 3985 (to Amendment No. 3984), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6585**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 85 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. 322), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill. **Page S6590**

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3986, to change the enactment date, fell when cloture was invoked on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill. **Page S6585**

Reid Amendment No. 3987 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 3986), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3986 fell. **Page S6585**

Reid Amendment No. 3988 (to Amendment No. 3987), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 3987 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 3986), of a perfecting nature fell. **Page S6585**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 12 noon, on Friday, December 12, 2014, all post-cloture time on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill be considered expired; that it be in order, notwithstanding cloture having been invoked for Senator Coburn to offer a motion to refer the House Message; that there be three hours of debate, one hour each for Senators Coburn and Reid, or their designees, and 30 minutes each for Senators Murkowski and Inhofe, or their designees, prior to a vote on or in relation to the motion to refer; that the Coburn motion to refer be subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; that if the Coburn motion to refer is not agreed to, Senator Coburn be recognized for the purposes of making a motion; that following disposition of the Coburn motion, the pending motion to concur with a further amendment be withdrawn; that the Senate vote on the motion to concur; that no motions other than the Coburn motions, motions to waive or motions to table be in order; that the vote on the motion to concur be subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; that if the motion to concur is agreed to, Senate begin consideration of the following concurrent resolutions, en bloc: H. Con. Res. 21, providing for a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3979; and H. Con. Res. 123, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to

make a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3979; and that the concurrent resolutions be agreed to. **Page S6681**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, at approximately 10 a.m., on Friday, December 12, 2014. **Page S6646**

Appointments:

National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 104–191, the reappointment of the following individual to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics: Dr. Raj Chanderraj of Nevada for a term of four years. **Page S6697**

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 107–12, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: Michael Halley of Nevada vice Al Gillespie of Nevada. **Page S6697**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Thursday, December 11, 2014, through Friday, December 12, 2014, Senator Pryor be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S6645**

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that following disposition of the House Message with respect to H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Mark Gilbert, of Florida, to be Ambassador to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa; Robert C. Barber, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland; David Nathan Saperstein, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom; Amy Jane Hyatt, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau; Arnold A. Chacon, of Virginia, to be Director General of the Foreign Service; Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malawi; Donald L. Heflin, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde; Michael W. Kempner, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of

Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2015; and Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2016; that there be two minutes for debate, equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, prior to each vote; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed; that any roll call votes, following the first in the series, be 10 minutes in length; and that no further motions be in order to the nominations. **Page S6681**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

- 4 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.
 - 65 Army nominations in the rank of general.
 - 2 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.
 - 4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.
- Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S6694–96**

Messages from the House: **Pages S6622–23**

Measures Referred: **Page S6623**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6623–26**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S6626**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S6627**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S6627–31

Additional Statements **Pages S6686–94**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S6645**

Notices of Intent **Pages S6644–45**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6645**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S6645**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—322) **Page S6590**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:30 p.m., until 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 12, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6646.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

IMPROVING CHEMICAL FACILITY SAFETY AND SECURITY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a joint oversight hearing with the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-

sions to examine the implementation of the President's executive order on Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security, after receiving testimony from David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Administration; and Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original resolution to authorize the limited use of the United States Armed Forces against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant;

S. Con. Res. 38, expressing the sense of Congress that Warren Weinstein should be returned home to his family, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 595, recognizing Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai for their efforts to end the financial exploitation of children and to ensure the right of all children to an education, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 597, commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS Day;

H.R. 4573, to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States;

S. 2922, to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations, with an amendment; and

The nominations of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State, Leslie Berger Kiernan, of Maryland, as an Alternate Representative of the United States of America, to the Sixty-ninth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and a list in the Foreign Service.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Joan Marie Azrack, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Loretta Copeland Biggs, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, Elizabeth K. Dillon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.